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Committee for Programme and Coordination
Fifty-fifth session
1-26 June 2015
Agenda item 6
Provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session

Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session of the Committee

Note by the Secretariat

1. In accordance with paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50, the Committee shall submit to the Council and to the Assembly, for their review, the provisional agenda for its fifty-sixth session, together with the required documentation.

2. In its decision 1983/163, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources, and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

3. The draft provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session of the Committee is set out below. It has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative mandates and will be completed at the end of the current session in the light of the recommendations adopted by the Committee.

Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
   (a) Programme performance;

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Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on programme performance for the biennium 2014-2015

(b) Programme planning;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019: part one, plan outline, and part two, biennial programme plan (General Assembly resolutions 59/275, 62/224 and 69/17)

(c) Evaluation.

Documentation

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its fifty-third session on the programme evaluation of the United Nations Environment Programme

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its fifty-third session on the programme evaluation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its fifty-third session on the programme evaluation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

4. Coordination questions:

(a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

Documentation

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2015

(b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (General Assembly resolution 59/275)

5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session.

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-sixth session.

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Committee for Programme and Coordination
Fifty-fifth session
1-26 June 2015
Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fifth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Joseph Marie **Fouda Ndi** (Cameroon)

I. Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held its organizational session (1st meeting) on 23 April 2015 and its substantive session from 1 to 26 June 2015 at United Nations Headquarters. It held a total of 19 meetings and a number of informal consultations.

A. Agenda

2. The agenda for the fifty-fifth session, adopted by the Committee at its 1st meeting, is contained in annex I to the present report.

Selection of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

3. At the same meeting, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the note by the Secretariat (E/AC.51/2015/L.2), submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 59/267, containing the information that there were no relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit available for consideration by the Committee at the present session.

Programme of work

4. Also at the same meeting, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the annotated provisional agenda (E/AC.51/2015/1) and the note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation (E/AC.51/2015/L.1) listing the documents for consideration by the Committee.

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5. At its 2nd meeting, on 1 June, the Committee approved its programme of work with the understanding that adjustments would be made by the Bureau, as necessary, during the course of the session to take into account the pace of discussions.

6. Following the 2nd meeting, informal briefings were held by the Secretary of the Committee and representatives of the Secretary-General on organizational and logistical matters and on evaluation issues.

B. Election of officers

7. At its 1st meeting, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Yuri Ambrazevich (Belarus) Chair of the Committee for the fifty-fifth session.

8. At its 2nd meeting, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Renata Archini (Italy) as Vice-Chair of the Committee for the session.

9. At its 4th meeting, on 2 June, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Joseph Marie Fouda Ndi (Cameroon) as Rapporteur of the Committee for the session.

10. At its 12th meeting, on 11 June, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Lorena Giménez Jiménez (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) as Vice-Chair of the Committee for the session.

11. The members of the Bureau for the fifty-fifth session of the Committee are:

Chair:
Yuri Ambrazevich (Belarus)

Vice-Chairs:
Renata Archini (Italy)
Lorena Giménez Jiménez (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

Rapporteur:
Joseph Marie Fouda Ndi (Cameroon)

C. Attendance

12. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented on the Committee:

Armenia
Belarus
Benin
Botswana
Brazil
Burkina Faso
Cameroon
China
Cuba
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Ethiopia
France
Haiti
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Italy
Japan
Morocco

Namibia
Pakistan
Peru
Portugal
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

13. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Algeria
Austria
Bulgaria
Egypt
Israel
Kenya
Lebanon
Mexico
Netherlands
Norway
Paraguay
Uganda

14. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented as observers:

European Union

15. Also present at the session were the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services; the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa; the Assistant Secretary-General for Intergovernmental Support and Strategic Partnerships, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); the Assistant Secretary-General of the Office of Information and Communications Technology; the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); the Director of the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination; and other senior officials of the Secretariat.

16. The following reports were discussed by videoconference: (a) consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia; and (b) the programme evaluations of UNCTAD, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as well as the review of the evaluation capacity of UNHCR.

D. Documentation

17. The list of documents before the Committee at its fifty-fifth session is set out in annex II.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

18. At its 19th meeting, on 26 June, the Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Committee (E/AC.51/2015/L.4 and Add. 1-17).

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft report on the work of its fifty-fifth session (E/AC.51/2015/L.4 and Add.1 to 17).

Annex I

Agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
   (a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017;
   (b) Evaluation.
4. Coordination questions:
   (a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;
   (b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.
5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.
6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session.
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fifth session.

Annex II

List of documents before the Committee at its fifty-fifth session

A/70/80	Report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 and proposals to improve the implementation of results-based budgeting (General Assembly resolutions 58/269, 62/224 and 67/236)
A/69/6/Rev.1	Biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017
A/70/6 (Sect. 10)	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States
A/70/6 (Sect. 22)	Economic and social development in Western Asia
A/70/6 (Sect. 29D)	Office of Central Support Services
A/70/6 (Sect. 29E)	Office of Information and Communications Technology
A/68/74 and Corr.1	Report of the Secretary-General on proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (General Assembly resolution 68/20)
A/70/72	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives (General Assembly resolution 62/224)
E/AC.51/2015/5	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
E/AC.51/2013/5	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of the evaluation capacity of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
E/AC.51/2015/9	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)
E/AC.51/2015/6	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
E/AC.51/2015/4	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
E/AC.51/2015/7	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
E/AC.51/2015/8	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the International Trade Centre
E/AC.51/2015/2	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

E/AC.51/2015/3	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the thematic evaluation of monitoring and evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals: lessons learned for the post-2015 era
E/2015/71	Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2014 (Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX))
E/AC.51/2015/10	Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (General Assembly resolution 60/275)
E/AC.51/2015/L.1	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation
E/AC.51/2015/L.2	Note by the Secretariat on the report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit (Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 59/267)
E/AC.51/2015/L.3	Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session of the Committee (Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII))
E/AC.51/2015/L.4	Draft report of the Committee
E/AC.51/2015/INF/1	List of delegations

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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fifth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Joseph Marie **Fouda Ndi** (Cameroon)

Addendum

Coordination questions: New Partnership for Africa's Development
(*item 4 (b)*)

United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

1. At its 3rd meeting, on 2 June 2015, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (E/AC.51/2015/10).

2. The Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation to and support for the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and commended the Special Adviser on the comprehensiveness of the report and the details provided therein. Delegations emphasized the critical importance of NEPAD to overcoming challenges to the development of Africa and welcomed and expressed support for the efforts of the Office in strengthening the coherence, coordination and effectiveness of the support provided by the United Nations system to NEPAD, including in the context of the constant flux and transformative changes taking place in Africa.

4. Appreciation was expressed for the great effort expended by the United Nations system in support of NEPAD and Africa, notably covering the sectors of

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agriculture, food security and rural development, infrastructure development, peace and security, governance, women's empowerment and gender equality, industry, trade and market access, environment, population and urbanization, social and human development, the response to the Ebola outbreak, science and technology and communication, advocacy and outreach.

5. Delegations underscored the need to support African Member States, the African Union and African regional economic communities in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and in relation to peace and security and development, as well as through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and other bilateral strategic partnerships with Africa such as the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the Africa Growing Together Fund. Further information was requested on the current progress and perspective of the implementation of the process relating to the International Conference.

6. Expressing appreciation for the continued support provided by the United Nations to Africa in the field of peacebuilding, efforts to combat drug trafficking and the prevention of terrorism, delegations stressed the need to further enhance support in relation to the prevention of terrorism and highlighted the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Regarding activities relating to peace and security, information was sought on how the Peacebuilding Fund had contributed to the region in recent years. Clarification was also sought on assistance to countries in combating illicit trafficking under the framework of the Airport Communication Project and the Global Container Control Programme, in particular why no mention had been made of Guinea-Bissau. The importance of maintaining the support to consolidate peace and secure long-term stabilization in the countries mentioned in paragraph 29 of the report was underlined.

7. Delegations noted the challenges faced by the United Nations system in providing support to the African Union and NEPAD owing to the lack of dedicated financial resources for the clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa and the implementation of the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union on the one hand and the problem of coordination within and among clusters on the other. Delegations welcomed the efforts of the United Nations to enhance coordination and reconfigure the cluster system with a view to improving the delivery of support for the development of Africa. Delegations took note of the successor programme to the 10-year capacity-building programme, which would take the form of a partnership on Africa's integration and development agenda.

8. While noting the recent adoption of the African Union Agenda 2063, delegations acknowledged the dynamic nature of African development priorities, as encapsulated in the Strategic Plan 2014-2017 of the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Strategic Plan 2014-2017 and Agenda 2063 and its 10-year implementation plan, and called for flexibility in aligning United Nations system support with current and emerging African development priorities.

9. Delegations expressed appreciation and support for the efforts of the Special Adviser and his Office in monitoring the implementation of commitments made to the development of Africa and stressed the need to expand coverage to include the new development commitments to be made in the post-2015 development agenda and to continue to report regularly thereon to the General Assembly.

10. Regarding the challenges and constraints cited in the report, clarification was sought as to how NEPAD had gone about addressing the challenges of elaborating joint programmes bearing in mind the differences in the mandates of the individual governing bodies and the different actors on the ground. The need for better coordination among those actors was underlined. It was stressed that, before adopting the partnership on Africa's integration and development agenda, it was important to take into account the experience accumulated throughout the years and the impact of the various projects already implemented in favour of Africa.

11. Reference was made to General Assembly resolution 68/247 A, section VIII, in which the Assembly had strengthened the Office of the Special Adviser. Reference was also made to information contained in the performance review of the senior manager's compact for 2013 and it was highlighted that the Office had not met its targets with regard to recruitment time, the representation of female staff in senior professional posts and the implementation of oversight body recommendations. In that regard, information was sought on more recent performance indicators and efforts by the Office to speed up recruitment to enable it to implement its mandate effectively.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. **The Committee welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for NEPAD (E/AC.51/2015/10) and recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 104 to 116 of the report.**

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to continue to include, in his future reports, detailed information relating to the possible outcomes of the achievements of NEPAD targets.**

14. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly should reiterate its request to the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote greater coherence in their work in support of NEPAD, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and called upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance.**

15. **The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly should request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to support the Strategic Plan 2014-2017 of the African Union Commission and the 10-year implementation plan for the African Union Agenda 2063.**

16. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should emphasize the need for the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to continue to fully take into account the views, comments and/or input of the African Union and other regional and**

subregional mechanisms in their policy formulation and decision-making, mainly in the areas of mediation, conflict prevention and peace and security.

17. **The Committee also recommended that the reports of the Secretary-General on NEPAD should continue to include information not only on seminars, workshops and meetings but also on other tangible actions and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership throughout Africa, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, with regard to the resources.**

18. **The Committee commended the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to include information on the activities undertaken by the Office in the areas of advocacy and analytical work, coherence and coordination and facilitation of intergovernmental deliberations relating to the provision of support by the United Nations system to the NEPAD agenda.**

19. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in the context of his report on NEPAD, to include information on the activities undertaken to support countries to address concerns regarding the protection of women and children, including from sexual violence.**

20. **The Committee emphasized the need for United Nations entities to continue their efforts in support of the region to combat new challenges relating to governance, young people, extremism and terrorism and recommended that the report of the Secretary-General on NEPAD should include information in that regard.**

21. **The Committee recognized the important role played by the development of hard infrastructure in Africa, in particular energy, railways and highways, and recommended that the General Assembly should reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize United Nations system support in that area, in particular for the initiatives of the regional economic communities.**

22. **The Committee emphasized the need for the continued implementation of activities relating to the monitoring mechanism and recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to provide information in that regard.**

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Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Joseph Marie **Fouda Ndi** (Cameroon)

Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation
(*Item 3 (b)*)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the International Trade Centre

1. At its 5th meeting, on 3 June 2015, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the evaluation of the International Trade Centre (ITC) (E/AC.51/2015/8).

2. The Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS introduced the report and, together with a representative of ITC, responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report and agreement with the OIOS assessment of the work of ITC, in particular its effectiveness, its proactivity and its specific efforts at supporting least developed and landlocked countries. The receptivity of ITC to the evaluation report was also welcomed. Delegations took note of the shortcomings reflected in the conclusions and recommendations of the report in areas such as monitoring and programme planning, expressing agreement that ITC should become more focused on results, for example through more strategic project prioritization and greater attention to outcome-focused monitoring and evaluation. Delegations recognized that strengthening those areas would be necessary if ITC were to achieve the objectives of its 2015-2017 strategic plan and 2016-2017 strategic framework and to measure its success against those objectives

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and respond to the needs of its clients and beneficiaries. In that regard, delegations sought clarification from OIOS as to what such measures of success might look like.

4. Delegations requested clarification on progress achieved in implementing the recommendations made in the report and on the relationship between the recommendations and those emanating from an independent evaluation conducted in 2014 that had been referenced in the report. Delegations took note of the Centre's efforts to mobilize further non-earmarked and "soft"-earmarked extrabudgetary resources.

5. One delegation, taking note of progress made in mainstreaming social issues such as gender and youth, sought clarification as to how those areas could be mainstreamed through a demand-driven approach in the implementation of the other recommendations proposed in the report and measured against indicators of achievement.

6. Clarification was sought regarding recommendation 2, which indicated that ITC should incrementally adopt a more holistic, data-driven approach to planning and budgeting while still seeking alignment with donor and client priorities. In that regard, one delegation said that ITC should continue to be guided by the biennial workplan of subprogramme 6 in the operational aspects of trade promotion and export development, which had been endorsed by Member States.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the recommendations contained in paragraphs 55 to 60 of the report of OIOS on the evaluation of ITC.**

8. **The Committee noted that the report contained useful recommendations to improve the performance of ITC and that most validated the outcomes of the independent evaluation of ITC completed in June 2014.**

9. **The Committee encouraged ITC to target the regions, countries and industries most in need of its expertise.**

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Rapporteur: Mr. Joseph Marie **Fouda Ndi** (Cameroon)

Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation
(Item 3 (b))

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. At its 7th meeting, on 4 June 2015, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the evaluation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) (E/AC.51/2015/7).

2. The Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS introduced the report and, together with a representative of ESCAP, responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report and for the productive dialogue between ESCAP and member States. Some delegations expressed agreement with the recommendations outlined in the report and the increase in accountability, the focus on transportation, trade and investment and the new energy portal. Satisfaction was also expressed regarding the work of the subregional offices (notably for the Pacific region, East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia, and South and South-West Asia).

4. Delegations questioned the heavy focus of the report on the areas of research and analysis, indicating that that should not undermine the importance of other categories of work of ESCAP, in particular technical assistance and capacity-

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building activities, which were crucial for implementation of the main mandate of ESCAP and to promote regional cooperation and action for inclusive and sustainable economic and social development. Delegations were of the view that, although the publication of analytical work (such as guidance or rules) was essential, additional focus should be given to capacity development and providing support services to stakeholders.

5. In relation to the methodology of the evaluation, clarification was sought regarding paragraph 15 (d), notably which Governments, non-governmental organizations and member States had been interviewed or formed part of the focus groups. Furthermore, delegations raised specific methodological questions regarding the composition of the group of 42 stakeholders who had been interviewed or taken part in the focus groups. Delegations acknowledged the challenges faced in the collection of data and evidence, such as low response rates to the stakeholder survey, and sought to know the reasons therefor.

6. Concerning section B and paragraphs 26 and 27 of the report, on the lack of a strong corporate framework to support joint work planning and coordination being insufficient to achieve the strategic goal of ESCAP to promote a multidisciplinary perspective, one delegation sought clarification as to the challenges faced and action being taken by ESCAP to resolve the issue and whether other regional commissions were also facing the same problem. Delegations recalled that member States approved the programme of work of ESCAP. In that regard, one recalled previous discussions on comprehensive reform and restructuring of human resources in ESCAP units and divisions. Delegations sought clarification on dialogue with States members of ESCAP, on ensuring strong corporate strategic work planning and on successful joint planning across ESCAP entities. A question was raised regarding the ability of ESCAP to assess its overall effectiveness and the implementation of its programme of work, for example whether the desired outcomes were being achieved.

7. Clarification was sought regarding the comments made in paragraph 59 of the report, in which it was indicated that ESCAP needed to clarify its current role, to improve its methods to assess effectiveness and to strategically identify the areas in which it could most effectively add value.

8. Delegations raised questions regarding coordination mechanisms, more particularly the measures implemented to promote coordination with other regional entities, as well as entities from other regions, and to avoid any overlap. In addition, one delegation requested clarification on specific projects pertaining to road and train connectivity within the region in the light of the reference in paragraph 21 of the report to the Turkey-Islamic Republic of Iran-Pakistan-India-Bangladesh-Myanmar road corridor and the Istanbul-Tehran-Islamabad-Delhi-Kolkata-Dhaka container train corridor.

9. One delegation sought clarification of the role of ESCAP in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and how its effectiveness would be assessed.

10. Delegations expressed concern at the high percentage of extrabudgetary funding and the possible impact of that situation on the work of ESCAP. Clarification was sought as to how ESCAP compared with other regional commissions in that regard.

Conclusions and recommendations

11. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the recommendations contained in paragraphs 65 to 68 of the report of OIOS on the evaluation of ESCAP, while recognizing that certain progress had already been made in addressing those recommendations.

12. The Committee recalled that ESCAP worked to overcome some of the region's greatest challenges by providing results-oriented projects, technical assistance and capacity-building to member States. In that context, the Committee emphasized that the focus of the report on research and analysis should not undermine the importance of other categories of work of ESCAP, in particular technical assistance and capacity-building activities, which were crucial for the implementation of the main mandate of ESCAP to promote regional cooperation and action for inclusive and sustainable economic and social development.

13. The Committee noted the crucial importance of efficient joint planning and coordination to achieve the strategic goal of ESCAP to promote a multidisciplinary perspective and stressed the need for a strong ESCAP corporate framework to support joint work planning in the implementation of research and analysis and other ESCAP work. In that regard, it recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to make further efforts to address those issues appropriately, taking into account the experiences of other regional commissions.

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Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Joseph Marie **Fouda Ndi** (Cameroon)

Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation
(*item 3 (b)*)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

1. At its 3rd meeting, on 3 June 2015, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the evaluation of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (E/AC.51/2015/6).

2. The Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS introduced the report and, together with representatives of ECLAC, responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report and the positive overall assessment of the work of ECLAC, including its support in the development of policies, the promotion of regional integration and the harmonization of statistics. Delegations also noted positively the visibility of ECLAC and the importance of its work, which was highly regarded and referenced, including its work with regional and subregional integration mechanisms and organizations (para. 44).

4. Delegations expressed appreciation for the analysis provided by OIOS of the resources allocated to ECLAC to tackle expanding mandates and numerous thematic areas in the context of a diverse region with different priorities and requirements. While concern was expressed at the diminishing regular budget resources over the

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past three bienniums, satisfaction was expressed with the allocation of resources by subprogramme. Note was taken of the impact of the downward trend in resources, including the pressure on the existing organizational structure and available resources, the termination of involvement in specific thematic areas and the lack of continuity of ECLAC involvement in various national policy issues. Clarification was sought on the impact of those changes.

5. Delegations raised specific concerns in relation to perceived contradictions in the report on how stakeholders and technical ministries had responded regarding the utility of the work of ECLAC. Some delegations noted that in some paragraphs OIOS had reported that a high percentage of respondents had stated that ECLAC had been effective in informing decision-making, while in others OIOS had stated that ECLAC had not widely disseminated its publications. Delegations expressed the view that those were separate issues and voiced concern that the report contained value judgements that contradicted the statistics provided. It was suggested that, in one case, technical ministries that had accessed ECLAC publications had expressed their satisfaction with how those publications had influenced their decision-making and, in the other case, reference had been made to technical ministries that lacked access to the publications produced by ECLAC and therefore could not use them; that particular situation could be due to respondents recognizing that they did not have full knowledge of the array of publications produced by ECLAC within their thematic area of focus.

6. In relation to activities in the area of research and analysis, clarification was sought regarding the reduction of more than 100 outputs from the period 2012-2013 to the period 2014-2015 and how the research and analysis products were being funded, in particular the distribution of funds between regular budget and extrabudgetary resources. The view was expressed that the evaluation had focused too strongly on research and analysis activities and that it should have included more information on the technical assistance provided by ECLAC.

7. Delegations specifically asked how ECLAC was addressing the issue of gender, noting in particular that it had not been mentioned among the five thematic areas of work (social, economic, environmental, statistics and public administration and subregional activities). Clarification was sought as to whether gender aspects were being mainstreamed into the work of ECLAC.

8. Delegations requested information on how ECLAC was working on identifying and supporting discussions about emerging development issues important to the region, such as the governance of natural resources or the economics of climate change.

9. Some delegations noted that OIOS had made limited reference to the important and catalytic role of South-South cooperation. Specific questions were raised in that regard, including the link between South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation. Information was requested on the percentage of extrabudgetary and regular budget resources used to fund South-South cooperation.

10. Delegations more broadly posed questions on the implementation of the recommendations and the strategies that ECLAC had to carry them through, specifically regarding the strengthening of the evaluation function and the creation of a separate evaluation unit, including whether that would be included in any future budget proposals and whether there were arrangements to ensure that the recommendation was actionable.

11. Delegations posed questions on paragraph 31 of the report, in which it was indicated that only 33 per cent of Caribbean respondents surveyed thought that ECLAC made contributions to the regional or subregional policymaking or decision-making processes that no other entities could provide. Delegations sought information on what could be done to improve the situation and expressed interest in learning about the previous evaluations undertaken by ECLAC to improve the support and assistance provided in the subregion and how the implementation of those recommendations could prove useful in further strengthening the assistance provided by ECLAC.

12. Delegations sought clarification from ECLAC on specific aspects of the analysis and recommendations contained in the report, including in relation to the availability of publications in languages spoken in the region, including French and Portuguese, as well as on the response of ECLAC to individual requests from Governments and an engagement strategy vis-à-vis national policymakers. Delegations highlighted in that regard that national strategies should be driven primarily by demand from member States and that the role of the regional commissions overall was driven by their member States.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the recommendations contained in paragraph 74 of the report of OIOS on the evaluation of ECLAC.**

14. **The Committee noted with appreciation that OIOS had recognized some of the key strengths of and challenges faced by ECLAC, among them the fact that ECLAC had raised important and relevant development policy issues among member States in the region while maintaining its impartiality and facilitating regional and subregional integration initiatives. The Committee acknowledged that ECLAC had also effectively supported policymaking and decision-making at the national level upon requests for technical assistance from member States.**

15. **The Committee welcomed the fact that ECLAC had studied the report carefully and had welcomed the findings and insights. It also expressed appreciation for the fact that ECLAC would support organizational learning in strengthening the effectiveness of the use of its available resources, the dissemination of its work both to the public in general and to national authorities and policymakers, and the establishment of mechanisms to further improve the inclusion of the Caribbean perspective in the work programme of ECLAC substantive divisions and its reporting and evaluation mechanisms. It was also acknowledged as a positive step that ECLAC had prepared a detailed action plan, outlining work under way to follow up on the important recommendations in the report.**

16. **The Committee acknowledged the finding in the report regarding the increasing complexity of the development issues faced by the region. The Committee also noted the finding of the report that, at the organizational level, more demands were continually and cumulatively being made on ECLAC without any commensurate increase in resources and that, to retain its comparative advantages, ECLAC needed to assess its strategies and structure, given its current mandates, in the context of the realities and challenges identified in the evaluation.**

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Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation
(*item 3 (b)*)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

1. At its 7th meeting, on 4 June 2015, the Committee considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (E/AC.51/2015/2).

2. The Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS introduced the report and, together with representatives of UN-Habitat, responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations commended OIOS on the quality of the report, in particular the depth of the analysis, the strategic direction, the coverage of key issues and the reconciliation of a vast array of viewpoints. Delegations concurred with the conclusions and recommendations, highlighting the need for UN-Habitat to develop a rating system that would provide relevant and more accurate information on the Programme's achievements. The importance of finalizing an accountability framework and of developing regional strategic plans in four regional offices and Habitat Country Programme Documents was stressed. In that regard, one delegation voiced support for the inclusion of an ethics function in the workplan for the period 2016-2017.

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4. Delegations expressed concern that, while OIOS had rightly acknowledged the progress of UN-Habitat on several fronts, including a better focus on its strategic priorities, it had not sufficiently addressed key factors and critical challenges that explained the difficulties in achieving results, such as resource constraints, the need for governance reform and structural bottlenecks.

5. Delegations underlined the lack of intergovernmental oversight of activities funded by earmarked resources, which amounted to most of the activities of UN-Habitat, as well as the Programme's overreliance on voluntary contributions, which had resulted in priorities diverging from those outlined in the mandates defined by member States and set out in the Programme's strategic plan. In that regard, delegations welcomed the governance reforms adopted by the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session, in April 2015, praised the recent progress in their implementation and welcomed the establishment by the Council of a working group on programme and budget to ensure that all projects carried out by UN-Habitat (including those funded from earmarked resources) complied with pre-approved benchmarks and indicators of achievement that were aligned with the established strategic plan. In addition, delegations indicated that it would be of interest for OIOS to re-evaluate UN-Habitat once the new governance structure was in place and fully functional.

6. Some delegations, noting that most crisis and conflict areas happened to be in urban and densely populated areas, recommended that UN-Habitat should develop, in cooperation with relevant United Nations entities, a risk management policy and plan of action, based upon, among other things, international human rights and humanitarian law, taking into account experience derived from recent crisis areas and incorporating durable solutions for affected urban and rural populations, including internally displaced persons.

7. Delegations also stressed that UN-Habitat should more systematically adapt its work to the countries in which it operated and that regional-level and country-level documents should incorporate baseline data and input from member States. Those efforts would require stronger engagement for resource mobilization and the creation of new partnerships. One delegation highlighted the efforts of UN-Habitat in Japan, notably its work with local and regional partners.

8. Disagreement was expressed with the assessment of OIOS regarding insufficient mainstreaming of youth issues throughout UN-Habitat activities. It was said that UN-Habitat actively engaged in youth issues through its engagement in the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth, the Urban Youth Fund and the Youth Advisory Board.

9. Delegations raised specific questions as to the methodology employed in the report, including the challenges cited in paragraph 16 relating to effectiveness-related evidence not being forthcoming at the country level, given that only 8 of 20 countries had sent responses, repeated requests notwithstanding.

10. It was emphasized that the strategic direction of UN-Habitat should incorporate relevant items of the post-2015 development agenda and the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, to be held in Ecuador in October 2016.

11. Delegations sought clarification on the limited availability of non-earmarked funding currently available to UN-Habitat and how that situation could affect the Programme in endeavouring to implement the post-2015 development agenda.

12. Interest was expressed in a future assessment of how the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards and Umoja would affect the overall effectiveness of UN-Habitat procurement and recruitment.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the recommendations contained in paragraphs 64 to 70 of the evaluation of OIOS of UN-Habitat.**

14. **The Committee expressed appreciation for the OIOS evaluation of UN-Habitat and recognized its value in improving the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of the Programme towards meeting the objectives of its mandate and strategic plan.**

15. **The Committee welcomed the acceptance by UN-Habitat of the recommendations of OIOS and recommended that UN-Habitat should actively consult and cooperate with the Working Group on Programme and Budget in their implementation.**

16. **The Committee emphasized that structural constraints relating to the absence of a comprehensive intergovernmental oversight mechanism had seriously affected the alignment of UN-Habitat with its strategic priorities, as well as its effectiveness, and welcomed the governance reforms adopted by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat at its twenty-fifth session.**

17. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to entrust OIOS with analysing the management response to the new governance structure of UN-Habitat in its next evaluation report.**

18. **The Committee also stressed, for member States to be able to make more informed decisions on planning and budgeting, the need for UN-Habitat to strengthen its evaluation function at all levels, including by reporting on regular evaluations of its strategic plan and developing regional-level and country-level programme documents with clear and relevant baselines, targets and indicators in support of its strategic plan.**

19. **The Committee also encouraged the management of UN-Habitat to strengthen the transparency of all decision-making processes and foster cohesiveness throughout the Programme.**

20. **In addition, the Committee recommended that OIOS, in its next reports, should continue to provide information on the implementation and effectiveness of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards and Umoja in UN-Habitat.**

21. **The Committee noted with appreciation the efforts of UN-Habitat to position itself as the lead United Nations agency for sustainable urbanization.**

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Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation
(*Item 3 (b)*)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

1. At its 10th meeting, on 8 June 2015, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the evaluation of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) (E/AC.51/2015/9).

2. The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the report. The Assistant Secretary-General/Deputy Executive Director, Intergovernmental Support and Strategic Partnerships Bureau, of UN-Women and the Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report and highlighted the timeliness of the evaluation in view of the continuing debate on the post-2015 development agenda and the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Delegations expressed the view that UN-Women should increasingly build on best practices and lessons learned and noted the success of the Entity in normative matters globally. Note was taken of the progress achieved in various areas, including in relation to the Commission on the

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Status of Women and other intergovernmental processes, as well as sustainable development, indigenous peoples, climate change and natural disasters. In addition, clarification was requested as to whether the eight areas of work of UN-Women were delivering at the same level or whether some areas were performing better than others.

4. Delegations noted the positive collaboration between UN-Women and OIOS during the evaluation. Some sought clarification on the methodology employed, including possible reasons for the low response rates to web-based surveys and interviews with Member States, civil society organizations and UN-Women staff, including the Entity's Executive Board and resident coordinators, and the use of an expert consultant as part of the evaluation team.

5. Delegations stressed the importance of the work of UN-Women for gender equality and the empowerment of women and reiterated strong support for the Entity and its mandate. Delegations commended UN-Women on the significant progress achieved since its creation in 2011, with one seeking further details on how the Entity had taken stock of and built on the work performed in the field before its inception. Note was taken of the challenges in implementing such a global agenda given the existing resource constraints. The Entity's overreliance on voluntary contributions was highlighted. One delegation questioned the reduction in the share of regular budget resources for 2016-2017. Delegations expressed appreciation for the fact that, the shortage of resources compared with estimates at the inception of the Entity notwithstanding, UN-Women had been able to raise awareness of gender issues and contribute to the development of norms and standards for gender equality and the empowerment of women worldwide.

6. Delegations took note of the progress made by UN-Women in the coordination of efforts to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women within entities of the United Nations system and with partners, underlining existing challenges within the organization. One suggested that key factors and best practices in that regard should be identified as lessons learned.

7. Several delegations noted that no country had yet achieved gender equality and that additional efforts were required to overcome cultural resistance and gain political will for the empowerment of women. They expressed support for the advocacy role that UN-Women could play to further foster the implementation of gender strategies and policies at the country level, while noting that limited resources had severely affected the Entity's capacity to deliver on its mandate. The importance of partnerships and synergies with civil society organizations and United Nations country teams was underlined. One delegation stressed that UN-Women had not made full use of existing coordination mechanisms for the implementation of normative frameworks.

8. Some delegations expressed concern regarding the use in the report of the term "cultural resistance" and other new terms that had not been agreed upon in relevant intergovernmental processes. They stressed that OIOS should use the terminology that Member States had previously agreed upon by consensus within the context of those processes.

9. One delegation sought further clarification as to why OIOS had not assessed existing partnerships between UN-Women and civil society organizations, which were considered very important for the Entity in overcoming challenges and

resistance at the local and national levels to the implementation of its activities. Another delegation further underlined the importance of linkages to intergovernmental bodies such as the Council of Europe and questioned the lack of such linkages with the European Union, where gender was an essential cross-cutting area and where the European Court of Justice applied case law on issues of equality and efforts to combat discrimination.

10. One delegation stressed the essential contribution of women to peace and security and underlined that the results presented in the report were not satisfying, especially in relation to women from African countries. In that regard, another delegation stressed that the lack of a UN-Women presence in some countries, such as the Central African Republic, or regions, such as West Africa, affected the Entity's effectiveness in delivering on its mandate. A third delegation underlined the importance of supporting the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) in that regard.

11. Several delegations requested clarification on the steps that UN-Women had taken to mainstream gender perspectives in the work of other partners and how the Entity intended to reach its target audience in areas in which it was not present in the field and in which access to social media was limited. One welcomed the use of radio programmes in areas in which access to modern technology was limited. In that regard, another delegation noted that, those challenges notwithstanding, the figures cited in the report indicated that the impact of UN-Women in the field had increased.

12. Delegations welcomed the positive response of UN-Women to the recommendations of OIOS and sought further details on the implementation process, in particular given the budgetary constraints. One stressed the importance of recommendations 2 to 4 and sought further details on their integration into the UN-Women strategic plans for the periods 2016-2017 and 2018-2019 and the budgetary consequences thereof.

13. One delegation said that stronger indicators of achievement were necessary to improve the performance of UN-Women and to foster lasting results.

Conclusions and recommendations

14. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the recommendations contained in paragraphs 64 to 67 of the report of OIOS on the evaluation of UN-Women.**

15. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should encourage UN-Women to use system-wide coordination mechanisms to their fullest potential for promoting the implementation of its mandates to strengthen the linkages between its normative and its operational work and, subject to requests by Member States, to enhance its presence at the country level.**

16. **Regarding recommendation 3, the Committee stressed the need to improve the implementation of the mandates of UN-Women at the regional and country levels through the implementation of approved strategies and organizational solutions that enhanced mutual cooperation between headquarters and field offices.**

17. The Committee underlined that it was important for UN-Women to provide technical advice and support to the United Nations system on mainstreaming gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in its work. The strength of those partnerships was considered an important contribution to ensuring the coherent implementation of its mandate within the United Nations system.

18. The Committee noted with concern the finding of OIOS that gender focal points participating in the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality were often at an insufficiently high level of authority to make decisions and commitments. In that regard, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly should bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the need to encourage the executive heads of the agencies, funds and programmes to ensure that the organizational placement and level of authority of gender focal points were sufficient to support the decision-making process effectively.

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

(*Item 3 (a)*)

Report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Programme 19
Economic and social development in Western Asia

1. At its 14th meeting, on 12 June 2015, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/70/80).

2. Representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. One delegation requested further information on how subprogramme 4 had supported member countries in developing or updating strategies and policies that leveraged human resources, innovation and modern technology towards a knowledge-based economy and an information society as the new paradigm for

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employment and sustainable economic growth, pursuant to expected accomplishment (a) in table 22.17 of document A/70/6 (Sect. 22) (see also A/69/6/Rev.1, para. 19.47).

4. One delegation asked whether the revised name of subprogramme 4, "Technology for development and regional integration", which was more general than the previous title, "Information and communications technology for regional integration", corresponded to the content of the subprogramme, in particular the objective, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. Furthermore, clarification was sought as to whether the subprogramme included policy and technical support under the umbrella of its activities.

Conclusions and recommendations

5. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the change to programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/70/80).**

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Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

(*item 3 (a)*)

Report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Programme 8
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

1. At its 14th meeting, on 12 June 2015, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/70/80).

2. Representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020.

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4. Reference was made to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 55/231 on results-based budgeting, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that, in presenting the programme budget, expected accomplishments and, where possible, indicators of achievement were included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States. In that regard, several delegations expressed concern that the indicators of achievement contained in the programme's strategic framework did not abide by that mandate because they directly measured the achievements of Member States. Delegations further expressed concern at what they perceived as an attribution gap, namely that "high-level" achievements were the result of many factors and could not be linked to contributions of the United Nations directly.

5. On subprogramme 2, Landlocked developing countries, one delegation sought clarification on the inclusion of servicing the high-level political forum on sustainable development as an output (see A/70/6 (Sect. 10), para. 10.44 (a) (ii)), asking in particular whether resources would be allocated only to servicing those aspects of the forum dealing with issues pertaining to landlocked developing countries and not to subprogrammes 1, Least developed countries, and 3, Small island developing States. It was suggested that, were all three subprogrammes to be allocated resources, the document should be adjusted for consistency.

6. Clarification was also sought as to what extent the increased priority areas in the Vienna Programme of Action, as compared with the priority areas in the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, had been reflected in the strategic framework of subprogramme 2. Explanations were sought regarding several aspects of the subprogramme, including the meaning of the term "structural transformation" used in indicator of achievement (b) (iii) and the definition of "private sector collaboration" that would be used in evaluating indicator of achievement (c) (iv).

7. In relation to subprogramme 3, Small island developing States, one delegation pointed out that the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change would not be held until December 2015 and that it was therefore premature to refer to it in indicator of achievement (b). Another delegation sought clarification on indicator of achievement (e), in particular how "United Nations processes" would be evaluated.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the changes to the narrative of programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/70/80) and in section 10, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/70/6 (Sect. 10)), subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 2
Landlocked developing countries

Indicators of achievement

Renumber indicator of achievement (a) as (a) (i) and amend it to read as follows: "(i) Increased number of landlocked developing countries supported by the United Nations system to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into their national development strategies".

Add a new indicator of achievement (a) (ii), reading: "(ii) Increased number of Member States supported by the United Nations system to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (iii) with the following: "(iii) Increased number of initiatives undertaken and/or facilitated by the United Nations system that effectively support economic structural transformation in landlocked developing countries, in accordance with the Vienna Programme of Action".

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (iii) with the following: "(iii) Increased number of initiatives undertaken and/or facilitated by the United Nations system resulting in South-South and triangular cooperation involving landlocked developing countries".

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (iv) with the following: "(iv) Increased number of initiatives undertaken and/or facilitated by the United Nations system resulting in transparent, effective and accountable private sector collaboration with landlocked developing countries".

Subprogramme 3
Small island developing States

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (e) with the following: "(e) Enhanced coherence, within the United Nations system, among processes relating to small island developing States, including at the national, regional and global levels".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with the following: "(b) Increased number of development partners that pledge support for small island developing States, including through the climate change financing mechanisms, such as the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility and the Climate Investment Funds".

Replace indicator of achievement (e) with the following: "Increased consolidation of processes, within the United Nations system, relating to small island developing States".

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Addendum

Coordination questions: report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination
(Item 4 (a))

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2014

1. At its 5th meeting, on 3 June 2015, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) for 2014 (E/2015/71).

2. The Director of the secretariat of CEB introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations welcomed the report, expressing appreciation for the comprehensive and high-quality information on the work of the Board presented therein. Useful enhancements to the content of the CEB website were acknowledged. Delegations recognized the Board's increasingly important role in promoting system-wide coherence and coordination, the elimination of duplication, greater effectiveness and a more efficient use of resources to foster development and international security. One delegation said that the work of CEB was essential if the United Nations system were to continue to deliver results and ensure policy coherence in respect of the many mandates approved.

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4. Delegations recognized that the intergovernmental mandates to which the Board was responding were clearly identified in the report and emphasized the importance of continuing to ensure that its work was guided by such mandates.

5. The Board's efforts to promote policy coordination and coherence in areas including economic and social development, South-South and triangular cooperation and climate change were welcomed. One delegation also welcomed CEB efforts to support United Nations conferences and summits on specific issues, such as those pertaining to small island developing States, and in that context another delegation inquired about a joint initiative on tourism development being supported by nine United Nations system organizations that had been presented at the CEB high-level side event during the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States. Support was also voiced for the preliminary steps taken to coordinate system-wide assistance to help to prepare for the transition to the post-2015 development agenda, although several delegations emphasized the need to avoid prejudging the outcome of the intergovernmental negotiations on the agenda, including in relation to action to be taken by the system in support of the new development framework. Delegations commended the selection of youth employment as an area of focus of the Board in view of the subject's importance in achieving poverty reduction and sustainable development.

6. Delegations welcomed the assistance provided by the United Nations system to Member States to accelerate the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals through the review by CEB of implementation at the country level and requested further information on the activities being carried out at that level. Clarification was sought as to whether Goal 8, on a global partnership for development, had been considered in the context of the review.

7. With regard to South-South and triangular cooperation in the area of agriculture, the importance of strengthening cooperation with other United Nations entities, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Food Programme, and of involving entities such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development and other relevant financial entities was underlined. On climate change, the library of United Nation system publications compiled by the Working Group on Climate Change of the High-level Committee on Programmes for the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was seen as valuable; in particular, one delegation noted the increasing need to raise awareness of the subject among the less-educated and illiterate. CEB was encouraged to ensure that its input to the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, to be held in Ecuador in 2016, would be released in a timely manner to enable Member States to use it properly.

8. Delegations welcomed United Nations system-wide coordination efforts on the extremely important matters of cybercrime and cybersecurity. Details were requested on the measures to strengthen inter-agency coordination in that regard and clarification was sought on the United Nations entities that had led the initiative.

9. Some delegations welcomed efforts to improve the effectiveness and impact of operational activities of the United Nations system and to support United Nations country teams. Delegations raised questions on the scope of the mandate to deliver as one United Nations and stressed the voluntary nature of the initiative. A request

was made for an update on the impact of the Joint Operations Facility in Brazil to be included in the report for 2015.

10. Delegations underscored the crucial role of CEB in improving and demonstrating innovation with regard to the administrative and management functions of the United Nations system and reiterated their appreciation for the Board's focus on the harmonization and simplification of business practices in the areas of finance, procurement, human resources and common support services through the High-level Committee on Management. One delegation noted that efforts to date had succeeded in improving efficiency in terms of resource use, transparency and accountability. Delegations urged CEB to continue work on human resources management, strengthening transparency and accountability and improving finance and budgeting mechanisms. The importance of analysing the impact of administrative activities on improving the work of the system was also noted.

11. On procurement, delegations welcomed the significant progress made on collaborative initiatives, in particular to increase access to United Nations system procurement by vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition. One delegation sought further information on the mandate for harmonizing procurement guidance, as well as on the work of the Procurement Network on long-term agreements for the procurement of vehicles and fuel. Another noted that the further deployment of the Secretariat's enterprise resource planning system, Umoja, had not been mentioned in the report and that it could have an impact on procurement, in particular in field locations (e.g. in relation to real-time updates on ongoing procurement). One delegation observed that, to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of procurement and to avoid duplication in procuring items already in storage, improved asset management and coordination with acquisitions were necessary.

12. Delegations showed interest in the work by the Finance and Budget Network of the High-level Committee on Management on the development of a common definition of operating costs. Questions were raised on the specifics of the agreed definition, including whether it had already been approved by the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/226.

13. Delegations requested further details on efforts to ensure coherence and complementarity in oversight functions, audit and evaluation throughout the United Nations system, including on the "three lines of defence" model of the Institute of Internal Auditors and on how coherence between the approach on accountability and risk management could be ensured. Clarification was sought as to whether oversight bodies such as the Joint Inspection Unit, the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Board of Auditors had been consulted about the reference risk management, oversight and accountability model before its adoption by the High-level Committee on Management.

14. Regarding activities undertaken by the Human Resources Network of the High-level Committee on Management, delegations welcomed the exchange of information among human resources directors of member organizations and the creation of a working group to further identify good practices in key performance management areas, as recommended by the Committee on Programme and Coordination at its fifty-fourth session. More information on the pilot schemes for performance-based rewards and recognition was requested, including in relation to

the mention in the report of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations Office for Project Services. Delegations welcomed progress made in the areas of performance management, inter-agency mobility and recruitment of local staff and expressed interest in the challenges that remained to be addressed and the way forward.

15. Delegations sought clarification on the status of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/292 on multilingualism and welcomed the initiatives to promote and facilitate multilingualism undertaken by United Nations system organizations to date. One stressed the need to channel resources to strengthen translation and interpretation capacity.

16. An update on the status of the feasibility study on enterprise resource planning interoperability mentioned in paragraph 42 of the report was requested, as was further information on the United Nations system data catalogue.

17. Delegations expressed appreciation for the update on the system-wide implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards and commended the Board for its role in promoting their adoption to improve the quality of financial reporting and harmonization throughout the system and to enhance transparency and accountability. Further details on cooperation between CEB and the Joint Inspection Unit were requested.

Conclusions and recommendations

18. **The Committee reiterated its recommendations to the General Assembly to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, the following concerns:**

(a) **The need to ensure that the Board's activities and initiatives, including those relating to system-wide coherence, encompassing also the voluntary adoption of "Delivering as one" as defined in General Assembly resolution 67/226, section IV.C, were fully in line with intergovernmental mandates;**

(b) **The need to ensure enhanced alignment of the measures of the High-level Committee on Management with the existing United Nations legislative framework, including in the area of procurement.**

19. **The Committee recognized the contributions of CEB in 2014 to the enhancement of United Nations system-wide coherence and coordination in policy, operational and management matters.**

20. **The Committee recognized the work of CEB on the harmonization and simplification of business practices and welcomed the instances in which opportunities for efficiencies and the reduction of administrative and procedural burdens had been created, aiming at increasing the coherence, coordination, effectiveness, accountability and credibility of the United Nations system. The Committee reiterated its recommendation that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to continue to address that issue.**

21. **The Committee took note of the establishment of the Joint Operations Facility in Brazil as an effort to streamline key operational areas of participating agencies by consolidating support services and recommended that**

the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to provide an update on the matter in the context of the next CEB report.

22. **The Committee also noted the initiative of CEB to share good practices in performance management through the exchange of experiences among human resources directors of participating organizations and recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to continue to promote good practices among participating organizations.**

23. **The Committee recalled paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 69/273 and recommended that the Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to promote the strategic use of long-term agreements, as appropriate, with regard to procurement activities in the United Nations system.**

24. **The Committee recognized the continued efforts of CEB to enhance collaboration on procurement activities, including increasing the opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to continue his efforts in that regard.**

25. **The Committee recognized the intrinsic interlinkage between poverty eradication and the promotion of sustainable development and stressed the importance of mobilizing capacity and resources for supporting the implementation of the future global development agenda. The Committee emphasized the key role to be played by CEB in ensuring coordinated United Nations system-wide support in the preparation of and follow-up to the post-2015 development agenda, in accordance with relevant intergovernmental mandates. For that purpose, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to include in the report of CEB to the Committee at its fifty-sixth session information on ways and means of strengthening that role to foster policy coherence in the United Nations system in order to ensure coordinated and effective action on the wide range of programmatic, management and operational issues linked to that global agenda.**

26. **The Committee took note of the establishment of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team, coordinated by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and called upon the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to continue to promote, within existing mandates, among the funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system, the continuation of mainstreaming support for South-South cooperation into the regular country-level programming of operational activities for development.**

27. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to present the system-wide input to the new urban agenda well in advance of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and**

Sustainable Urban Development, to be held in Jakarta from 25 to 27 July 2016, to allow for its proper consideration by Member States.

28. **The Committee recognized the continued efforts of CEB to engage with Member States, including, but not limited to, the use of its website, to further enhance and strengthen the Board's transparency and accountability to Member States.**

29. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to continue to foster a coordinated approach to multilingualism in the United Nations system, in accordance with the relevant Assembly resolutions.**